

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 146
By Hagood

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Mr. Jim Gray upon his
recognition as a Distinguished Artist at the 2003
Governor's Awards in the Arts celebration.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who through their extraordinary efforts have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Jim Gray of Knoxville, who, on March 11, 2003, will be recognized as one of Tennessee's Distinguished Artists at the Governor's Awards in the Arts celebration; and

WHEREAS, as the State's highest honors in the arts, the Governor's Awards in the Arts were established in 1971 to recognize those individuals and organizations who have made significant contributions to the cultural life of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the Distinguished Artist Award recognizes Tennessee artists of exceptional talent and creativity who, over the course of a career, have contributed to the arts and have helped guide and influence directions, trends, and aesthetic practices within Tennessee's artistic communities; and

WHEREAS, a nationally acclaimed artist, Mr. Gray is renowned for his maritime and landscape paintings; he has also created many beautiful bronze sculptures; and

WHEREAS, helping to shape the State's artistic legacy, in the late 1960s Jim Gray organized an artists' community in Gatlinburg that consists of dozens of artists who attract thousands of tourists to Tennessee every year; and

WHEREAS, as a part of the Art in Embassies Program, Mr. Gray's paintings are currently on display in the United States Embassy in Japan; and

WHEREAS, a member of the American Society of Marine Artists, Jim Gray has served as this outstanding organization's Vice President; and

WHEREAS, Jim Gray epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean and has contributed greatly to the creative, artistic, and cultural lives of his fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Jim Gray for his dedication to the propagation of the arts in Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby congratulate Mr. Jim Gray upon his recognition as a Distinguished Artist at the 2003 Governor's Awards in the Arts celebration and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.